

The following are exemplary claims which may be used in the utility patent application based on this provisional patent application.

- 5                   1. A mat for framing visual artwork, comprising:  
                    a border; and  
                    an artwork-viewing window interior to the  
border so that the window is surrounded by the  
border,  
10                   the border displaying at least two distinct  
photographs.
2. The mat of claim 1, wherein the border  
displays at least four distinct photographs.
- 15                   3. The mat of claim 1, wherein the border is  
formed, at least in part, of paper.
4. The mat of claim 1, wherein the photographs  
20                   abut one another.
5. The mat of claim 1, wherein the photographs  
overlap one other at their adjacent edges.
- 25                   6. The mat of claim 1, wherein the edges of the  
photographs are softened so that they gradually  
fade away to the outermost edges of the  
photographs.
- 30                   7. The mat of claim 1, wherein the photographs  
are predominantly black and white with some  
colored items therein.

8. The mat of claim 1, wherein the subjects of the photographs are related under a selected theme.

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9. A mat for framing visual artwork, comprising:  
a border; and

an artwork-viewing window interior to the border so that the window is surrounded by the border,

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the border displaying a computer-manipulated photograph.

10. A mat for framing visual artwork, comprising:

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a border; and

an artwork-viewing window interior to the border so that the window is surrounded by the border,

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the border displaying at least two copies of a computer-manipulated photograph, wherein the copies abut one another and are blended together at their abutting edges.

11. A method of making a mat for framing visual artwork, comprising:

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scanning at least two photographs to form scanned images corresponding to the photographs;

storing the scanned images in computer memory;

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manipulating the scanned images to form a mat using a photograph-manipulation software program; and  
printing the mat formed of scanned images.